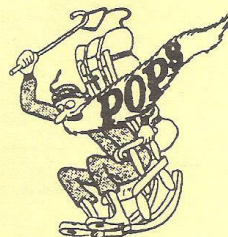


POPS Nationals

18-22 Sep 1996

Xenia, OH

Parachutists
Over
Phorty Society



Celebrate the
30th Year of POPS &
35th Year of Skydive Greene County

1996 POPS Nationals

Hosted by
Skydive Greene County
Xenia, Ohio

September 18-20 POPS & SOS Boogie
September 21-22 Competition 21 Sept. Banquet
Hit 'N Rock (1round), Accuracy (3 rounds), RW Scrambles (3 rounds)
USPA & POPS membership required to compete

Registration: \$15.00 Jumps: \$16.00 to 12,000
Twin Otter & Beech 18's

Food, hot showers on site. Visitors welcome to stay in clubhouse or camp out.
Allengate Inn, Xenia 513-376-8124
Best Western Regency, Xenia 513-372-9954
Holiday Inn, Xenia 513-372-9921
(AAA or AARP discounts available)
Dayton, 15 miles — Columbus, 48 miles — Cincinnati, 48 miles

For more information call Jim West: 513-372-0700
DZ: 177 S. Monroe-Siding Road, Xenia, OH 45385

September 26, 1996

Alicia Moorehead
3350 St. Francis Place
Long Beach, CA 90805

Dear Alicia:

Enjoyed meeting you and Pat.

Enclosed is a small present for you to remember your visit by.

If you want enlargements of some of the shots I got on that dive (there were 4 or 5 worth framing, different formations) let me know. I don't charge much.

Thanks for your assistance in writing the article. Here's what I sent to Sue.

P.O.P.S. CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

The 1996 POPS Nationals was held September 16-22 at Skydive Greene County in Xenia, Ohio, and featured good jumps, generally good weather, and lots of fun.

The traditional events of 4-way, accuracy, and hit-and-rock were featured, and all competitions were completed, even though a brief weather system shut down jumping in early afternoon on Saturday, and high winds did the same Sunday.

67 POPS registered for the meet, (77 attended) including a number of Skydivers Over Sixty. Average age was 56 7/8 (7/8 courtesy of Jerry Marklin of Michigan). Top POP Alicia Moorehead was in attendance, as was Swiss Top POP Theo Fritschy, who traveled nearly 7,000 miles to be there. Countries represented included Canada, Austria, Netherlands, Switzerland, plus 18 states.

Bolstered by a good crop of local fun jumpers, the DZ flew 89 loads with its Twin Otter and two Beeches. A total of 1,016 jumps were made by meet's end, a surprising total as attitudes were mellow and nobody seemed to be in a hurry.

There was a combined experience level of 139,544 jumps between the 77 POPS members. Most-Jim West with 10,000+; least, Ron Brown with 268. The oldest attendee was Warren Searle of Canada, 73. There were no injuries and no malfunctions.

The meet represented the 30th anniversary for POPS (Parachutists Over Phorty Society), as well as the 35th year of continuous operation for the DZ, the original location which spawned the many Greene County Skydiving Centers throughout the country. Owner Jim West hosted a party at his home (which adjoins the DZ) on Friday night, and the Saturday night banquet and awards ceremony provided many funny moments.

4-way event winners were the team comprised of Alicia Moorehead, Burl Baxter, Dave Clarkson, and Ron McFarland, winning with a two-round total of 17 points. Second place went to the team of Jerry Bourquin, Kate Campain, Bernie Larkin, and Larry Cordiera. 9 teams entered the competition.

Accuracy was won by Tom Zukowski with a 3-round total of 15 centimeters. In second was Jerry Marklin with 23 centimeters.

The "Hit-And-Rock" crown also went to Tom Zukowski, with an excellent score of 5.76 seconds. (In Hit-and-Rock, contestants must land in the pit area, drop their rigs and sprint to a nearby rocking chair, touching the disc on the way.) Second went to Russ Manhold by only half a second. Competitors seemed to take this event more seriously than the others, and there was an impressive contest with some low times posted.

A special award went to Pat Moorehead for being the lowest-scoring SOS (Skydivers Over Sixty) competitor.

The reigning Top POP praised Jeff Steinkamp, who traveled from Quincy, Illinois to serve as chief judge, as well as the staff of Skydive Greene County. "They were definitely a big reason the meet was such a success", she said.

The next POPS World Meet is scheduled for June 4-9, 1997, at the seaside resort of Aqaba, Jordan. ###

(The accompanying photo is of the winning 4-way team, with the DZ in the center, and the other one is of an unidentified POPS competitor stretching for the disc...I like the 4-way shot myself)

Hope you like it! See you soon.

Your Friend,



Steve Sandstrom
President, Still Alive Productions

Ohio DZ Hosts POPS Nat'ls

by Steve Sandstrom

Good jumps, generally good weather, and lots of fun highlighted this year's U.S. Nationals of the Parachutists Over Phorty Society. The competition was held September 16-22 at Skydive Greene County in Xenia, Ohio.

A total of 67 POPS registered for the meet, with another 10 attending the boogie.

The DZ completed all of the scheduled events, including 4-way RW, accuracy and hit-and-rock. There were two short weather holds, but they did not hurt the competition.

U.S. Top POP Alicia Anderson attended the meet, as did Swiss Top POP Theo Fritschy, who traveled nearly 7,000 miles to the event. Other competitors came from 18 states across the U.S., Austria, Canada and The Netherlands.

Bolstered by a good crop of local fun jumpers, the DZ flew 89 loads with its Twin Otter and two Twin Beeches for a total of 1,016 jumps—a surprising number since attitudes were mellow and nobody seemed to be in a hurry.

Alicia Anderson, Burl Baxter, Dave Clarkson and Ron McFarland won the two-round 4-way competition with a total of 17 points. Nine teams entered the event.

Tom Zukowski won accuracy with a total of 15 centimeters in three rounds.

Zukowski also won the single round of

hit and rock with a time of 5.76 seconds. (As usual, competitors landed as close to the target as possible, dropped their rigs, stomped the disc, and sprinted to a nearby rocking chair.)

Oddly enough, competitors took this event more seriously than the others, and it was an impressive contest with some low times posted. A special award went to Pat Moorehead for the best score in the SOS set (Skydivers Over Sixty).

Anderson complemented Jeff Steinkamp, who traveled from Quincy, Ill., to serve as chief judge, as well as the staff of Skydive Greene County.

"They were definitely a big reason the meet was such a success," she said.

There were no injuries during the meet and no malfunctions.

Those in attendance had a combined experience level of 139,544 jumps. DZ operator Jim West had the most, with more than 10,000 jumps; and Ron Brown the least with 268 jumps.

Warren Searle, 73, of Canada was the oldest. The average age of the participants was about 56.

The POPS organization celebrates its 30th anniversary this year.

The next POPS World Meet is scheduled for June 4-9 at the seaside resort of Aqaba, Jordan. □

11-96